

Lomatium bradshawii (Rose) Math. & Const.

Bradshaw's lomatium
Apiaceae (Parsley Family)

Status: State Endangered, USFWS Endangered

Rank: G2S1

General Description: Low, erect perennial with leaves ranging from 4 to 12 inches long. Mature plants have 2 to 6 leaves. The plant is glabrous, or smooth, without hairs, and is rarely greater than 16 inches tall. It is taprooted, with the caudex usually located about 1 to 2 inches below the ground surface. Its yellow flowers are small and compact. Inflorescences have from 5 to 14 umbellets. Fruits are oblong, $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, with thickened outer margins known as wings.

Identification Tips: *Lomatium bradshawii* is most easily identified by the involucels (small bracts beneath the inflorescence) that are 3 cleft to the middle with the lobes often cleft again and by the corky-thickened wings on the fruit. *L. utriculatum*, which occurs within the range of *L. bradshawii*, has shallowly cleft involucels and thin winged fruit. *Lomatium bradshawii* appears to be most closely related to *Lomatium cookii* of the Rogue River and Illinois River valleys in southwestern Oregon.

Phenology: The peak blooming period occurs from the last week of April through the first week of May, with few plants still blooming in early June. Fruit is present on plants from mid-May to early July, and is shed at maturity.

Range: Endemic to the southern portion of western Washington in the Puget Trough physiographic province and to the central and southern portions of the Willamette Valley physiographic province in western Oregon.

Habitat: The species occurs in remnant fragments of the once widespread low elevation grasslands and prairies. The habitat type is described as wet, seasonally flooded prairies and grasslands common around creeks and small rivers. Associated species include tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), slender rush (*Juncus tenuis*), sawbeak sedge (*Carex stipata*), and one-sided sedge (*Carex unilateralis*).

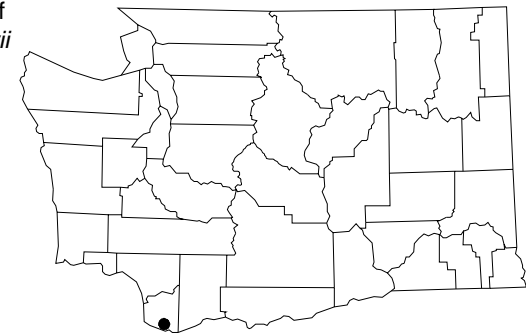
Lomatium bradshawii

Bradshaw's lomatium



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Known distribution of
Lomatium bradshawii
in Washington



- Current (1980+)
- Historic (older than 1980)

Lomatium bradshawii

Bradshaw's lomatium



Photo by John Gamon



Photo by John Gamon



Photo by Jane Wentworth

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Ecology: The habitat of *Lomatium bradshawii* is within areas intermediate between wetlands and uplands, and appears to be sensitive to hydrologic conditions. For example, although *L. bradshawii* appears to be adapted for survival in wet areas with seasonal flooding, standing water during the growing season is reported to have dramatically reduced plant growth and fruit production in Oregon. Fires have been extremely important in shaping and maintaining prairie plant communities in this region by reducing or eliminating the invasion of woody species, and by reducing the build-up of grasses and herbaceous litter. Studies indicate that burning has had a positive effect on populations of *L. bradshawii* in Oregon.

State Status Comments: In Washington, there are only two known occurrences, both located in Clark County.

Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed in appropriate habitats in southwestern Washington.

Threats and Management Concerns: Residential and commercial development and resultant changes in hydrology represent a significant threat to the species. Fire suppression and resulting secondary succession of grasses and woody species also threaten the species' survival.

References:

Hitchcock, C. Leo, Arthur Cronquist, Marion Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1961. Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 3: Saxifragaceae to Ericaceae. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 614 pp.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1993. *Lomatium bradshawii* (Bradshaw's lomatium) Recovery Plan. Portland, Oregon. 47 pp.